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If the object of matrimony was only to produce human animals, irrespective of their mental and spiritual nature, I should advocate the prevention of the marriage not only of the deaf, but of some other classes who labor under physical defects. But this is not the case. A true marriage is upon a higher and holier basis than this. Its essential element is in the affections of a pair whose perfect union is necessary to their happiness. The happiness of this pair I believe to be of more consequence to themselves and to society than the possible or even probable inconvenience of their offspring. I say inconvenience, for deafness is neither a crime nor a disgrace; nor does it inflict any suffering on its subject. There was a time when the deaf were considered but brutes, and classed as idiots, and treated accordingly. That time, all are thankful, is past; and in our time deaf persons often stand in society the peers of any others, in all that makes true nobility of character and manhood. In education, in mechanical skill, in æsthetic culture, in artistic talent, in true refinement and taste, they are oftentimes above the average of hearing people; and sometimes the deaf member of the family is the one of all his kindred most entitled to respect, because his deafness, having withdrawn him from his surroundings, has placed within his reach an education and culture that enables him to live on a much higher plane than any of his relations enjoy, and than he would have enjoyed if he had not been deaf. There is in society a vast amount of practical ignorance concerning the deaf, which it seems almost impossible to eradicate. This is one of the heritages handed down from former times, when deafness was indeed a great calamity, consigning its subject to perpetual infancy in law, and to dense ignorance for life. But, as already stated, times have changed; and what was once a calamity is now only a serious inconvenience. There are other inconveniences that descend by heredity that we might quite as well combat through matrimony as deafness. Baldness is a physical defect that is often (in fly-time and in cold weather, or when sitting in a draught, for instance) a great inconvenience; but who ever thought of classing the bald-headed among the defective classes, or of regarding baldness as a crime or disgrace? Near-sightedness is a physical defect that is often very inconvenient; but who ever thought to trace the pedigree of bald or near-sighted people, to see if they might enter into wedlock?

PHILIP G. GILLET.

Jacksonville, Ill., Oct. 22.

Chalk from the Niobrara Cretaceous of Kansas.

THE chalk from the Niobrara cretaceous of Kansas has long been known, but, so far as I am aware, little has been hitherto discovered regarding its structure or formation. Professor Patrick, some years ago, stated that it contained no microscopic organisms, but afterwards, with the aid of a very high power objective, found what he thought were organic remains. This is all the more remarkable, as the chalk appears to be wholly composed of organic forms, very readily visible under a comparatively low power (a one-fifth or a one-sixth objective and a C eye-piece). A ready way to detect them is by allowing a thin film held in suspension in water to dry on a slide, afterward mounting in balsam. I have examined a number of specimens, and find the material composed of small elliptical disks, either with four depressions or foramina, leaving ridges in the shape of a Greek cross, or with one or two central depressions or nuclei. Scattered among them are small slender rods, and occasionally a number of these were seen attached to a central mass. I believe the disks to be coccoliths (discoliths), which occur abundantly in the white chalk of England, and, at the present day, in deep-sea deposits. The Kansas chalk, however, has always been thought to be a shallow-sea deposit,—a belief strengthened by the abundance of thick-shelled molluscan remains, such as certain *Inocerami*, *Rudistes*, etc. The Kansas chalk, unlike the English, shows no flinty nodules. I shall make further examinations of material from different regions of the outcrop, which varies not a little in its physical and fossiliferous characters, and publish further results of my investigations, with figures.

S. W. WILLISTON.

University of Kansas, Oct. 24.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE Forest and Stream Publishing Company of New York will issue at once the first number of a quarterly publication entitled "The Book of the Game-Laws," compiled by the editor of *Forest and Stream*, and containing all the laws of the United States and Canada relating to game and fish.

—Messrs. John Wiley & Sons announce for immediate publication Eggleston's "Metallurgy," Vol. II.

—D. C. Heath & Co. have in active preparation for early publication "The American Citizen," by Rev. Charles F. Dole. It is intended to provide a book suitable for the higher grades of the grammar-school, as well as for high-schools and academies.

—The Goldthwaite Geographical Exchange, New York, has brought out a new edition, based on the 1890 census, of "Cram's Standard American Atlas." Special attention is given in this atlas to the railway systems, which are printed in separate colors. The index is claimed to be very complete, giving not only the location of the places, but also the means of reaching them by rail, express, etc., and the banking facilities available.

—Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, have in preparation the following additions to their valuable list of works on education: (1) the authorized translation of Compayré's "Psychologie Appliquée à l'Éducation," in two volumes,—Vol. I., "Notions Théorétiques," a treatise on elementary psychology; Vol. II., "Application," a practical application of the principles of psychology to physical, intellectual, and moral education; and (2) the authorized translation of Compayré's "Cours de Morale Théorique et Pratique." These lectures are all fully indexed, and each is followed by a *résumé* of its contents.

—Three new Old South Leaflets have been added to the general series published by D. C. Heath & Co., all of them devoted to Indian subjects. The first is Coronado's "Letter to Mendoza in 1540," written probably from the Zuñi pueblo, describing his search through New Mexico for the famous "Seven Cities of Cibola." This English translation of Coronado's report has never been published before except in the large and costly collection of Hakluyt; and it is of special interest at this time, when the researches of Frank Cushing and others have directed attention anew to the Zuñi country. The other two leaflets are John Eliot's "Brief Narrative of the Progress of the Gospel Amongst the Indians of New England," first printed in London in 1671, and Rev. Eleazer Wheelock's "Narrative of the Original Design, Rise, Progress, and Present State of the Indian Charity-School in Lebanon, Conn." (1762). The establishment of this school was the most important and interesting effort for the education of the Indians in New England, in the last century; Dartmouth College, of which Wheelock was the first president, being an outgrowth of the school. These papers are a valuable addition to the series of Old South Leaflets, which now furnishes so many original historical documents to our students at the cost of a few cents, Wheelock's "Narrative" being No. 22 of the series. Mr. Mead's historical and bibliographical notes to the three new leaflets are full.

—The result of the experiments at the Ohio State Agricultural Station in the cultivation of different varieties of strawberries shows that if we separate varieties of strawberries into two classes,—viz., those that continue a long time in bearing, and those that have a short season,—we find that the most prolific fall into the first class, while those that give small crops continue but a short time in bearing; in other words, those that give the greatest number of pickings during the season produce the largest crops. It might seem that the aggregate crop would depend as much, or more, upon the quantity of fruit ripe at each picking, as upon the number of pickings; it would also seem that the varieties that ripen slowly, and continue a long time in bearing, would be more in danger of dry weather than those that yield their crop in a short time: but such does not appear to be the fact. Nearly all of the very early varieties continue but a short time in bearing, yield but few pickings, and give short crops. The same is true, in a more marked degree, of the extreme late sorts. They commence to ripen late, but hold out little, if any, longer than the medium varieties. The second early or medium varieties usually give more

pickings during the season, and continue longer in bearing, than the extreme early and late sorts, hence give a greater total yield. Those varieties of strawberries that produce pollen and berries also, are at a disadvantage as compared with those that produce berries only. Division of labor counts here as elsewhere. Give a plant nothing to do but to grow and bear fruit, and the work will be better done than if an additional task is imposed. To produce pollen taxes the energies of the plant much more than is commonly supposed. Many growers think it would be desirable to have varieties with perfect blossoms only to save the trouble of planting the two classes. Theory disproves this plan; and careful observations show, that, in general, the most prolific sorts are those that have imperfect flowers. It should be understood that these statements refer to the leading varieties that are most generally grown. There are some apparent exceptions even with these, and still more if all known varieties are included.

—The November number of *The Sanitarian*, forthcoming, will begin the publication of the "Transactions of the American Climatological Association," held at Denver, Col., Sept. 2, 3, and 4, 1890. All new subscribers for *The Sanitarium* for 1891, sending their subscriptions before the 15th of November, will be supplied with the November and December numbers gratis. All correspondence should be addressed to the editor, A. N. Bell, M.D., 113a Second Place, Brooklyn, N.Y.

—Mr. Edward L. Wilson, who has travelled extensively through the Holy Land with notebook and camera, is about to publish the results of his wanderings in a work entitled "In Scripture Lands." It is to be issued at an early date by the Scribners. A new work of practical value, entitled "Electricity in Daily Life," is also about to be published by them. It is a popular account of the application of electricity to every-day uses. The various branches of the work have been intrusted to writers selected for their expert acquaintance with the subject. A life of John Ericsson will

be published immediately by the same firm. It is written by Col. Church, who was intimately acquainted with Ericsson for many years, and has been intrusted with the famous inventor's papers and correspondence. It will be profusely illustrated. They have already issued new and cheaper editions of Schuyler's "Peter the Great" and Professor Shaler's "Aspects of the Earth."

—*Public Opinion*, the eclectic weekly published in Washington and New York, offers a first prize of \$50, a second of \$30, and a third of \$20, for the best three essays on the interesting question "The Industrial Future of the South." The essays must be limited to 3,000 words, and must be received by Dec. 15. Full particulars may be had by addressing *Public Opinion*, Washington, D.C.

—The *Nineteenth Century* for October opens with a symposium on "The Labor Revolution," by H. H. Champion, T. R. Threlfall, and Hon. R. B. Brett. Mr. Champion's paper is entitled "A Multitude of Counsellors;" Mr. Threlfall, who is secretary to the Labor Electoral Association of Great Britain and Ireland, discusses the new departures in trades-unionism; and Mr. Brett raises the question as to what are the ideals of the masses. His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, governor of Jamaica, contributes a paper on "The Awakening of Jamaica," in which he discusses the past and present economical history of the island, and the latest attempts to revive its resources; D. Henry Behrends points out the dangers of tuberculous meat and its consequences; Wilfrid Ward gently and sympathetically touches on some aspects of Newman's influence; Hamilton Aide describes manners and customs in Sicily in 1890; the Bishop of Carlisle writes on "Bees and Darwinism," and defends himself against an attack of Professor Romanes; Arthur P. Crouch discusses the relations between Dahomey and the French; Miss Benson comes to the defence of domestic service; B. Paul Neuman and the Rev. Herbert Darlow examine the weaknesses of Congregationalism, the former from the pews, the latter

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TO AUTHORS.

Correspondence is solicited with parties seeking publishers for scientific books.

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from the pulpit; J. Aratoon Malcolm presents a plea for Armenia in a paper entitled "Armenians' Cry for Armenia;" Louis J. Jennings describes the imperfections in the English civil service as illustrated in the admiralty; and the number closes with an article on "Meddling with Hindoo Marriages," by J. D. Roos.

—The recent death of Canon Liddon will furnish the theme of many an article *in memoriam*, and the *Reviews* are already printing tributes to the memory of the great English preacher. Canon Scott Holland opens the *Contemporary Review* for October with a brief but sympathetic notice of the life and work of his friend; Sir Morell Mackenzie writes at some length on "The Use and Abuse of Hospitals," and makes many suggestions that are of value; Sir Dr. William Wright takes up the forward movement in China, giving his attention to the progress of missions and the conditions they have to contend with; Sir T. H. Farrer discusses imperial finance of the last four years in the first of a series of papers on recent English financial methods; A. Taylor Innes writes on "Standpoint of the English Law;" Michael G. Mulhall points out the possibilities of naval warfare; Mr. Justice O'Hagan tells the story of the life of Thomas Davis as an illustration of Irish patriotism; and Dr. F. H. Geffcken contributes a thoughtful paper on "The Economic Condition of Italy." The more strictly literary portion of the number is to be found in the first part of a story by Vernon Lee, entitled "A Worldly Woman."

—"The Problems of Greater Britain," based on Sir Charles Dilke's famous work, forms the opening paper in the *Westminster Review* for October; Ernest A. Vizetelly concludes his papers on Paoli the Patriot; Jeannie Lockett makes a valuable contribution to the divorce question in an article on "Clerical Opposition to Divorce in Australia;" T. W. Rolleston tells the story of the Irish Parliament and its struggle for reform in 1782-93; Frances Russell contributes a brief and suggestive paper on "Neglected Path to Greatness;" Mr. George C. Call describes the search for the lost

Mr. Bathurst, whose disappearance in the early part of the century has never been accounted for; Alice Bodington writes on "The Importance of Race and its Bearing on the Negro Question;" and the number concludes with the usual review of the English politics, and the department of "Contemporary Literature," reviews of the latest books,—a feature of the *Westminster* which has just been revived, and which was once its strongest part.

—A new and revised edition of Jesse R. Macy's work on "Our Government" has appeared from the press of Ginn & Co. It has always been deemed one of the best works of the kind, and the author has endeavored to improve on the original edition in accordance with the lessons of experience. Mr. Macy's style of expression has no great literary finish, but is plain and easily intelligible. The work is very condensed, and the student cannot read it in a hurry; but this condensation enables it to convey a great deal of information in a small space. It treats the whole subject of governmental agencies, national, state, and municipal—treats it, for the most part, well. One of the best parts of the book relates to the administration of justice,—a subject that is apt to be neglected in such works, but which is more important than any other. Mr. Macy has given his chief attention to description, and yet a good deal of information as to the purpose and uses of government is incidentally conveyed. The book deserves its reputation, and we hope will continue to be widely used.

—The October number of the *Fortnightly Review* contains the first parts of two new novels,—one by Count Leo Tolstoi, entitled "Work while You have Light," a tale of the early Christians; the other by George Meredith, entitled "One of Our Conquerors." Both these novels are highly characteristic of their authors, and are destined to attract wide attention. The general articles of the *Review* suffer no diminution through the introduction of the new element and its development from the standpoint of a resident. The series of papers on "Modern Russia," by E. B. Lanin,

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which have been an important feature of the *Fortnightly* for some months past, approach a conclusion in an article on "Jews in Russia." Sir Frederick Pollock writes on John Milton; Miss M. Dewie contributes a readable paper entitled "In Ruthenia," dealing with a province of Poland that is almost unknown to the general tourist, but which possesses many points of interest; A.

Egmont Hake and O. E. Wesslau discuss the American tariff war; there is a suggestive paper on "Reason and Religion;" A. Symons Eccles criticises the results of the Tenth International Medical Congress; George Moore criticises the new pictures in the National Gallery; and George Saintsbury sketches the life and works of Anthony Hamilton.

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